

De. 5

ES. 2. 31

The most lamentable Romaine
Tragedie of *Titus Andronicus*: As it was plaid
by the Right Honorable the Earle of Darbie, Earle
of Pembroke, and Earle of Suffex
theyr Seruants.

*Enter the Tribunes and Senatours aloft: And then enter
Saturninus and his followers at one doore, and Bassianus and his
followers, with Drums and Trumpets.*

Saturninus.

Noble Patricians, Patrons of my right,
Defend the iustice of my cause with armes.
And Countrimen my louing followers,
Plead my successiue Title with your swords:
I am his first borne sonne, that was the last
That ware the Imperiall Diademe of Rome,
Then let my Fathers honours liue in mee,
Nor wrong mine age with this indignitie.

Bassianus.

Romaines, friends, followers, fauourers of my right,
If euer *Bassianus* *Cesars* sonne,
Were gracious in the eyes of royall Rome,
Keepe then this passage to the Capitoll,
And suffer not dishonour to approch,
The Imperiall seate to vertue, consecrate
To iustice, continence, and Nobilitie:
But let desert in pure election shine,
And Romaines fight for freedome in your choice.

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Marcus